

Non-responsive

----- Original Message -----

From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
To: Cc: Robert.D.Smith@usace.army.mil
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2011 9:53 AM

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----- Original Message -----

From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

To:
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2011 10:28 PM

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DEP examines report of gas in Lycoming Co. wells

4:02 PM, Jun. 16, 2011

MUNCY, Pa. (AP) -- State environmental officials are investigating new instances of methane contaminating private residential water wells and bubbling up in a northern Pennsylvania stream near a [Marcellus Shale](#) natural gas drilling operation, a newspaper reported Thursday.

The Department of Environmental Protection found the flammable gas in five water wells in Lycoming County and gas bubbling into the nearby Little Muncy Creek, prompting XTO Energy Inc., a subsidiary of energy giant ExxonMobil Corp., to voluntarily stop operations in the county and provide the water well owners with potable water, the Williamsport Sun-Gazette reported.

There is some [data](#) on the water wells that was collected before drilling began and the department is asking for that information, spokesman Dan Spadoni said. However, he said the agency has not determined the source of the methane.

"The investigation is complex and will take time to resolve," he said.

Methane is not considered toxic to drink, but officials say it could ignite and explode if allowed to build up in an enclosed space.

The homes are near Lairdsville. XTO Energy also has vented the wells with 6-inch PVC pipe to prevent gas from building up and is screening other nearby residential wells daily, the newspaper said.

Last month, the DEP fined Oklahoma City-based [Chesapeake Energy Corp.](#) more than \$1 million in part for methane contaminating wells in nearby Bradford County, although Chesapeake did not assume blame for the methane contamination.

In another case, Houston-based Cabot Oil & Gas Corp. agreed in December to pay residents of Dimock in Susquehanna County \$4.1 million, install whole-house gas mitigation systems in 19 affected homes and pay DEP \$500,000. The DEP accused Cabot of contaminating the wells with methane gas, but Cabot denied responsibility for the pollution.

In Lycoming County, the DEP initially received a report of bubbling well water on May 17. The home is about 2,300 feet from a pad where Fort Worth, Texas-based XTO Energy has drilled and hydraulically fractured three wells, Spadoni said.

The agency then received a report about bubbling water in the creek on June 9, he said. Investigators have not found methane building up in homes or harming aquatic life in the creek, he said.

XTO spokesman Jeffrey Neu said methane was in water samples the company collected within 4,000 feet of some of its Lycoming County well sites before it began drilling.

"In general, the gas levels that were detected after drilling was completed were similar to the pre-drilling samples we studied," he said.

However, Neu said he was unsure as to whether XTO took samples from water wells near the drilling site in question.

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DEP investigates report of gas in Lycoming wells

6/17/2011 3:33 AM

Associated Press

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----- Original Message -----

From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

To: Cd

Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2011 11:17 PM

Subject:

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----- Original Message -----

From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

To:

Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2011 1:47 PM

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Many thanks,

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

www.choosecleanwater.org

----- Original Message -----

From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

To: Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2011 9:46 AM

Subject: Non-responsive

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Date: Thu, Jun 16, 2011 at 8:35 AM

Subject: Non-responsive

To:

----- Original Message -----

From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

To: [Protecting Our Waters](#)

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Non-responsive

Begin forwarded message:

From: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
Date: June 15, 2011 2:59:49 PM EDT
To: paccwgaswork@lists.democracyinaction.org
Subject: Non-responsive
Reply-To: Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

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